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Brief Peace Notes.

... The *Inter-Church*, published at Clinton, S. C., made its issue of May 3 a peace number. Hon. John Barrett contributed an article on "The Pan-American Union and Peace;" Dr. J. J. Hall an article on "The Cessation of War," and about a dozen peace workers joined in a symposium on "How Can America Contribute Best Toward International Peace?" The *Inter-Church* is to be congratulated on this excellent service to the cause of peace.

... Superintendent Frank B. Cooper, of the Seattle public schools, appointed speakers for the 18th of May for most of the schools of the city. The principal of each of the seventy-two schools was sent a package of peace literature to aid in preparing exercises for the day. Many other cities of the country prepared in the same thorough way for the observance of the day.

... At the dinner given at the Hotel Somerset, Boston, on Saturday evening, May 10, to the English delegates visiting this country in connection with the hundred years' peace celebration, Hon. John D. Long, who presided, was enthusiastically applauded when he suggested that there be erected at the entrance of the Panama canal a monumental statue of Jesus as an emblem of goodwill to all men, in the place of fortifications, which were merely a visible challenge to war.

Platform of the Fourth American Peace Congress.

Held at St. Louis, May 1-4, 1913.

1. The Fourth American Peace Congress, assembled at St. Louis May 1 to 4, 1913, and composed of delegates from the numerous peace societies, from other organizations interested in the cause, and of representative individuals from this and other American States, records its sincere satisfaction at the substantial progress which the movement for world peace has made since the meeting of the Third Congress at Baltimore two years ago.

2. It particularly expresses its high appreciation of the unique services to the cause of international arbitration rendered by Ex-President Taft in negotiating the treaties with Great Britain and France. These treaties constitute the high-water mark of the arbitration movement on its practical side up to the present time, and the congress records its deep regret that they were not ratified by the Senate with their full significance preserved.

3. Not less significant, the congress recognizes, is the noteworthy enlargement and deepening of public sentiment on the part of nearly all classes throughout the country in favor of pacific settlement of all international controversies, as evidenced by the immense number of letters and memorials received by Senators during the discussion of the arbitration treaties last year.

4. The congress rejoices in the failure of the militia pay bill to become a law, and urges the people of the nation to be on their guard against allowing any such system to be established as will ultimately fasten on the nation a great and burdensome military establishment, like those of the Old World, for which our great coun-

try has no conceivable need. We call upon all friends of peace to guard against the insidious efforts to extend military training in the schools and to make naval recruiting stations of our colleges and universities.

5. The congress congratulates the country on the failure, for two years in succession, of the two-battleship program, believing that the nation is so completely protected by its geographical situation, the great strength of its people, and the universal friendship of the other nations that it does not need to go any further in naval rivalry with the other powers.

6. The congress respectfully urges upon the President of the United States the initiation, at the earliest practicable date, of negotiations for an international agreement for not only the arrest of the current naval and military rivalry, but also of a simultaneous reduction of armaments, that the peoples may be relieved from the heavy and exhausting burdens of taxation under which they are now suffering.

7. The congress has learned, with much pleasure, of the plan which President Wilson and Secretary Bryan have just announced for securing treaties of unrestricted arbitration with not only Great Britain and France, but also with Germany and the other powers, and for the investigation by a commission of inquiry of the facts of any dispute which either of the parties may not consider proper for arbitration before any steps are taken toward hostilities.

8. As it is expected that the Third Hague Conference will assemble in 1915, the congress respectfully requests the President to appoint, without delay, a committee of not less than five persons, especially fitted by ability and international experience for the task, to consider what proposals the United States shall present for the program of the Third Hague Conference.

9. It is the judgment of this congress that the difference which has arisen between the governments of the United States and Great Britain over the question of the Panama tolls should be disposed of by the prompt repeal by Congress of the provision in the Canal Act for the exemption of vessels engaged in coastwise trade from the payment of tolls. Failing this, the controversy should be submitted without delay to the Hague Court for arbitration.

10. The congress makes earnest appeal to the legislature and people of California and to the National Administration at Washington to secure such just and impartial settlement of the question of alien ownership of land in the State as may not discriminate against the citizens of a great and friendly power and turn a long-standing historic friendship into enmity and friction for the future.

11. The congress recognizes the vast importance to the cause of good-will and peace between nations and races of early education in the principles of international justice and morality, the interdependence of peoples and races, and the co-operation of the nations for the promotion of the common good of humanity. It commends the aims and work of the Intercollegiate Peace Association, the American School Peace League, the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs, and other bodies engaged in this fundamental work, including the various organizations of women, and bespeaks for them more generous sympathy and the larger financial support of which they are in urgent need.